

The Democratic Pioneer.

TRUTH, JUSTICE AND THE CONSTITUTION.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 21, 1858.

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POETRY.

From Harper's Weekly.

HOW CYRUS LAID THE CABLE.

A BALLAD.

BY JOHN G. SAKK.

Come listen all into my song;

'Tis all about the mighty cord

They call the Atlantic Cable.

But Cyrus Field he said, says he,

I have a pretty notion

That I can run a telegraph

Across the Atlantic Ocean.

Then all the people laughed, and said,

They'd like to see him do it;

He might get half-seas-over, but

He never could go through it;

To carry out his foolish plan

He never would be able;

He might as well go hang himself

With his Atlantic Cable.

But Cyrus was a valiant man,

A fellow of decision,

And heeded not their mocking words,

Their laughter and derision.

Twice did his bravest efforts fail,

But yet his mind was stable;

He won't let man break his heart,

Because he broke his cable.

"Once more, my gallant boys!" he cried:

"Three times!"—you know the fable—"I

"I'll make it thirty" muttered he,

"But I will lay the cable!"

Once more they tried—hurrah! hurrah!

What means this great commotion?

The Lord be praised! the cable's laid

Across the Atlantic Ocean!

And ring the bells—for, flashing through

Six hundred leagues of water,

Old Mother England's benison

Salutes her eldest daughter.

Over all the land the tidings speed,

And soon in every nation

They'll hear about the cable with

Profoundest admiration!

Now long live JAMES and long live VIC,

And long live gallant CYRUS;

And may his courage, faith, and zeal

With emulation live us!

And may we honor evermore

Tae manly, bold, and stable,

And tell our sons to make them brave,

How CYRUS laid the cable.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A BEAUTIFUL SKETCH.

We select the following beautiful picture

from a recently published address of Rich-

ard V. Cook, Esq., of Columbus, Texas,

on the Education and Influence of Women.

It will touch the heart of the reader. We

do not often stumble upon so well expressed

an idea of woman's true mission:

I fancy a young man just emerging

from the bright elements of youth,

and commencing the long journey of life—

Honest, noble and gifted—the broad world

to his warm hopes, in the future scene

of affluence, fame and happiness. A youth

his active energies business-prosperous, and

as a consequence, friends come about him.

Ere long, he meets some sensible and am-

able girl who wins his heart, and who

loves and trusts him in return. He doesn't

stop to ask what the world will say about

the matter, in case he marries her. No!

He, the world is kicked out of doors

and the man determines to be the architect

of his own happiness. He doesn't stop to

inquire whether the girl's father is rich

in lands and slaves and coin; but he marries

her for that most honest and philosophic

of all reasons—because he loves her! He

builds his home in some quiet spot where

green trees wave their summer glories,

and where bright sunbeams fall. Here is

the Mecca of his heart, towards which he

turns with more than Eastern adoration.

Here is a green island in the sea of life,

where rude winds never assail, and where

storms never come! Here, from the

troubles and cares of existence, he finds

solace in the society of her who is gentle

without weakness and sensible without

vanity. Friends may betray him, and

foes may oppress; but when towards home

his weary footsteps turn and there beaus

him the olden smile of welcome, the

clouds lift from his soul—the bruised heart

is restored, and the strong man made

whole. I see the man fall into adversity.

Creditors seize his property, poverty stares

him in the face, and he is avoided on all

falls upon the carpet, and gently her hand

presses the fevered brow of the sufferer—

Though the pale face gives token of her

own weariness and suffering, yet through

the long watches of each returning night,

her vigils are kept beside the loved one's

couch. At last disease beleaguers the

fortress of life; and the physician solemnly

warns his patient that death is surely ap-

proaching. He swears it, too; and the

last words of love and trust are addressed

to her who is weeping beside his dying bed.

And, in truth, the last hour hath come.

I imagine it is a fit time to depart; for

the golden sun himself has died upon the eve-

ning's far horizon, and rosy clouds are

bearing him to his grave behind the west-

ern hills! Around the couch of the dying

man weeping friends and kinsmen stand;

while the minister slowly reads the holy

words of promise: "I am the Resurrection

and the Life, saith the Lord; he that be-

lieveth on me, though he were dead, yet

shall he live; and whom I live, and believ-

eth in me, shall never die."

Slowly the clock marks the passing mo-

ments, and silently the sick man's breath

is ebbing away. Slowly the cold waters

are rolling through the gateway of life.

And now as the death damp is on the vic-

tim's brow, and the heart throbs its last

pulsations, the glazed eye opens and turns

in one full, farewell glance of affection upon

the trembling weeper who bends over him

and ere the spirit departs forever, the an-

gels hear the pale wife's whisper—"I'll

meet thee—I'll meet thee in Heaven!"

AN ALABAMA DANIEL COME TO

JUDGMENT.

We have heretofore promised to give in

this column, from time to time, little wa-

ifs of legal anecdote matter of an original

and authentic character, and the following may

be taken as a slight installment: Capt

Reynolds, now a well known governmental

official of this city, engaged for a num-

ber of years in the vigorous pursuit of

husbandry. In other words, the cap-

tain had a large quantity of personal wild

cats to sow, and a large field in which to

sow them as a natural consequence, it

took him a long time to do it, and do it

well. It so happened that while pursuing

this commendable employment, he once

found himself in the good State of Ala-

bama, and near the town of Montgomery,

his companion having been a certain Jack

Constable, was to the manner born, and

less of a polished linguist than a polished

"poker" player. Owing to some slight ob-

jection of conduct on the part of the Cap-

tain, as was alleged, he was cited to appear

before one of the judges of the place on the

complaint of an adult male person, who

declared that he had suffered extreme vio-

lence of a personal character from the

Capitain's closed hands. When the latter

appeared before the Justice, he was ac-

companied by Jack, in two fold character

of witness and advocate. The complain-

ant's story—a rather tame history, by the

bye—when Jack proceeded to cross-ex-

amine him, and developed the fact that

he had put a little too much whiskey into

his water on the day of the alleged assault,

Jack was then sworn, and his remarks on,

an version of the affair were substantial-

ly as follows:

"Yer see, Judge, all 'round in this 'ere

region of Alabama you know our opinion

er you! Kent and Blackstone ar some, but

let 'em say Noth! If they should come

on yer we couldn't appreciate 'em properly

while you was about No! No!"

"Well, well! inter the fact" said the

Judge

"Well, yer see, Judge," resumed Jack,

"What for Judge?" said Jack, somewhat

porturbed.

"For salt and battery on this yer gentle-

man!"

"But Judge, there ain't nary warrant

out agin me," said Jack.

"Don't kear; the Court finds you guilty."

"But I ain't been arrested!" argued Jack.

"It don't make a bit of difference; the

Court finds you guilty!"

"But there ain't no complaint agin me!

an I ain't had no trial?"

"I know that; but the Court finds you

guilty, and fines you twenty-five good

round slugs!"

"Well," said Jack after a prolonged whis-

tle, "this is Alabama justice! this is!"

The defendant is discharged and the witness

and counsel fined twelve and a half a

piece!"

It is but fair to state that Constable got

'even' with the Judge at poker on the same

day.

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J. B. GODWIN, Editor.

ELIZABETH CITY:

TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 21, 1858.

MARINE DISASTER.

The brig, *George Whitney*, belonging to Philadelphia and bound to Charleston with a large and valuable cargo of merchandise of every description, struck on the outer reef, five miles North of Nag's Head, on Tuesday morning, about 2 1/2 o'clock, the wind blowing heavily from the North East, and being under a full press of canvass was surged forward over the shoals with a heavy sea breaking over her, until she took up about a mile farther South in six or seven feet water, and but a few yards from the shore at low water. The cargo has been gotten out in a damaged condition, but it is feared the vessel has been too much injured to render it probable that she can be again floated. The accident is attributable to the deviation of the compass, owing to a large body of iron, of which the cargo was partly composed.

The mate informs us that at the time of the disaster the brig was running one point to windward of her course—as marked by the compass—and making about twelve knots. He was in his berth when she struck, and was thrown out by the violence of the shock. The *George Whitney* is a splendid brig, 280 tons, two years and a half old; partly insured—cargo covered by insurance.

THE FARMERS' BANK.

As yet, we believe that the directors and stockholders of the Farmers' Bank have made no effort to give the public any clue to the real standing of the institution.—Though it has been repeatedly called for.—This, of itself is enough to excite suspicion, and with the past career of the Bank involves a mystery which is calculated to deceive the public. If the Bank is good the directors and stockholders should let it be known, that its paper should not suffer such a discount, and that its holders should not be subjected to loss; if it is insolvent, the sooner that fact is made known the better.

The interest of our patrons is to a greater or less degree involved in this bank as a public institution; it is a legitimate subject for attack for the public press; therefore we shall take the privilege of publishing its preliminary management.

And in public justice we must say that so long as the officers of the bank withhold from the public a full and impartial exhibit of the real state of the institution, they are not only committing an imposition but are actually swindling the public. For if the bank is insolvent and its notes actually worth what they call for on their faces, their holders should not be subjected to such a heavy discount as they are now; and if the bank is insolvent, let the holder of its notes at once ascertain how much he is to lose; and submit to his loss and then the Farmers' Bank shimmers.

Edenton Express.

We do not put ourselves forward as the champion of the Farmers' Bank or as an apologist for its delinquencies, but the above article from the Express is so manifestly unjust and embodies insinuations, not to say a direct charge, against several high minded and honorable gentlemen of our community, that it would be wrong in us to pass it by unnoticed. The Express is at fault in the outset. A statement of the condition of the Bank was made to the public in the two papers of this town, in April last—first reported to a meeting of the stockholders by a committee appointed to examine the Bank accounts, and by order of the stockholders, the report was given to the public. The comments of the Express are all based upon the idea, that no such statement has been made, and under this impression it deals out some pretty harsh strictures. The directors of the Bank are honorable men, and above any "suspicion" of a disposition to "deceive the public" in relation to the Bank. It is a grave thing to say that men "are not only committing an imposition, but are actually swindling the public," and the Express should have satisfied itself of the truth of its impressions before it ventured upon so sweeping a declaration. The low rates at which the paper of the Bank is held is owing more to rumor than to the actual condition of the institution. We have before stated that we entertain no doubt of the solvency of the Bank, and an exhibit made to us yesterday by the directors satisfies us of the truth of the opinion. From the statement published in April last, we take the circulation of the Bank—the Branch included—at that time as \$323,709. Since that time there has been redeemed \$122,000, leaving a total circulation at present of \$201,000. This also includes the circulation of the Greensboro Branch, which is known to be as sound as any institution in the State. Notes taken in are sealed and locked up, and not a dollar has been issued since the report was made. The assets of the Bank run above its liabilities some \$100,000, thus showing its perfect solvency. We repeat, there is a steady redemption of its circulation, and we see no necessity for the ruinous discount at which the notes of the Farmers' Bank are held. If those about here directly interested in having current money for their circulation will cease their everlasting complaint against the Bank, the evil will soon be remedied; if not, they must abide the consequences.

"Village" has been received. We decline inserting, because of its proscription character, and its liability to misconception. If the author will send us an article upon the same subject, but more liberal in its tone, it shall appear.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.

The Richmond South contains two extracts from the South Carolina *Guardian*, an opposition paper, which we transfer to our columns, as an evidence of the feeling of the more candid and patriotic of our opponents towards the administration and the Democratic party. It would be well if the same spirit animated all, who, with the *Guardian*, have been warring upon the Democracy in times gone by. It would be better for the country if the bitterness and vindictiveness which characterize the assaults of many journals in the interest of our enemies, were tempered by reason and justice, and that an administration and a party which have shown themselves true and steadfast to the cause of right in the hour of peril, and ever ready to vindicate and sustain the Constitution from each and every assault made upon it, should receive that approval which we know a cool and dispassionate judgment must award. Yet such is not the case.

Never in the history of the country has there been a more fierce and unremitting crusade carried on against an administration than is at present prosecuted by Southern Know-Nothingism against Mr. Buchanan and the party supporting him. It matters not that the President has been the recognized head of every measure that Southern men have warmly espoused as most conducive to the interests of their section; it matters not that Mr. Buchanan has received the hearty endorsement of those known as extremists, and from the sensitive regard for the rights of the South which they are known to feel and express, have been accused of seeking the establishment of a Southern confederacy. It is not enough that by his unwavering adherence to his constitutional obligations and the undeviating fidelity with which he has discharged the trusts confided to him by his countrymen that he has incurred the vile hate and malignant denunciations of Black Republicanism, that he has brought down upon his head an overwhelming stream of detraction, vituperation, and foul anathemas from those, who for years have been engaged in attacking Southern interests and Southern statesmen. All this, and more, is not sufficient to shield him from the venomous darts of an unscrupulous and disappointed faction in the slaveholding States, who have nothing better to urge in extenuation of their course than a general opposition to Democracy.

So far has this malevolent opposition to the Democratic party and its honored chief been carried, that the misrepresentations, falsehoods, and unpardonable slanders of an ambitious, unprincipled, Black Republican demagogue have been brought prominently forward in the columns of Southern newspapers, and endorsed by their editors as Gospel truths. Contrast this with the course of the journal from which the extracts below are taken. Place side by side the language of the South Carolina *Guardian*, and the vilification and abuse of the administration to be found in papers nearer home, and let the unprejudiced mind decide which is right, which is worthy the greater confidence, which is pursuing the course best calculated to advance and promote the interests of the slaveholding section of the confederacy. There can be no question about the answer. Read:

"It is well known that the *Guardian* is not a champion of the 'Administration,' or of 'Democracy'; but our journal is willing to accord to both all the credit they respectively deserve. We say that the Administration and the Democracy have not deceived the South. The Administration has at its head, as we believe, an able statesman, a sound and reliable 'Constitutional' President. So far as we have observed, in all his official acts, in his messages, and in his recommendations, he has shown himself a true Southern man. His Administration, from its formation to the present day, has had the whole cohorts of Abolitionism, Free-Soilism and Black Republicanism, leagued in bitter hostility to all its measures, and the savage ferocity with which they have ceaselessly assailed the President and the Cabinet, is of itself a strong evidence that the government has been administered on constitutional principles and that in carrying out these principles the President has endeavored to do justice to the South. Thus much we say for the Administration.

"The Democratic party, identified with the measures of the Administration, have no formidable opponent but the Black Republican party. That they may have committed errors in policy and in some of its measures, our own columns have frequently testified to, but that the Democratic party is the only one the South can consistently act in union with, is a fact as clear as the noon day sun."

"We are not of that party; we owe it no allegiance as a party journal, or as the conductors of that journal, we never received a dollar of its patronage—yes, more, the only party we could attach ourselves to as members or as journalists, would be a true Southern Rights party—yet, notwithstanding all this, if, in the Union we are compelled to do battle for the rights of the South, from every feeling of Southern fidelity—from every emotion of patriotism—from congeniality of political principle, and last, though not least, from gratitude—from a reciprocity of fidelity to the many faithful members of that party, we, and every true Southern man, must fight with the Democratic party against all mongrel combinations against it, composed of Black Republicans, recalcitrant Democrats, antiquated Whigs, and slippery Southern politicians and journals. It will take all these elements combined to make a decent fight against the Democracy, and the Whig knows, as well as its endorser, the American, that when they call so lustily for a union of all the opposition, they must necessarily receive into their mongrel league the Abolition and Free-soil hordes that now march under the banner of Black Republicanism."

"We do not exchange with the Rich-

mond *Whig*, and therefore cannot define its position on the politics of the present day. If, however, the following paragraph, extracted from its columns by the *Baltimore American*, is an index of its general course, then it is a professing Southern journal, playing into the hands of the Black Republican party. The paper that extracts the article with commendatory remarks is of the same ilk."

ANOTHER FAILURE.

The effort to fuse the Know-Nothing and Black Republican parties in New York to defeat the Democracy has again proved an abortion. The scheme was much talked of, the preliminaries agreed upon, and the whole thing regarded as settled, requiring only the formal ratification of the treaty by the high contracting parties to give it force and effect. The lank and lean politician looked to its consummation with confidence, and his fancy had already caused him to luxuriate beneath the shade of some fat office, the result of victory won by the combination. In the midst of his rejoicings, however, a voice whispered in his ear that the well digested plan had failed, the parties could not agree, the prospect of union was at an end, and that each party had made its nominations and gone home. Such, indeed, is the truth, and the Black Republicans have now their own candidates in the field, whilst the Know-Nothings have put their men upon the course.

Southern Know-Nothings did not scruple to avow a desire to see this union effected; neither do they hesitate to express their regret that the attempt has failed. The bitterness of the hate entertained towards the Democratic party, and the reckless abandonment of all principle in the purpose to defeat it, could not have a more forcible illustration than is here presented by our Southern opponents. Is it known to the readers, who were the men prominent in seeking to bring about a fusion between Know-Nothingism and Black Republicanism? Would they believe that Thurlow Weed, Horace Greeley, and their associates were the main spirits in the Black Republican convention, and that it was with them that the "American" party in New York were begging to be allowed to unite? Yet such is the fact, and to such an abominable combination, Southern "Americans" were ready to extend their congratulations.—What has been the cause of the failure to fuse? Not from any disagreement upon principle; not because the negro loving convention insisted too strongly upon adhering to their peculiar tenets; nothing of the kind; the terms, so far as creed was concerned, was satisfactorily adjusted. The "Americans" consented to exclude slavery from all the territories, and the Republicans, in their turn generously agreed to the proposition not to allow foreigners to vote until one year after naturalization.

These matters did not raise any obstacle to a harmonious union of the two factions. Another cause exploded the whole thing. The spoils! the spoils! ah, there was the rock upon which fusion went to pieces. The Republicans wanted the lion's share of the spoils, and as the spoils were the object for which the Know-Nothings had a particular longing, and for which they desired a union, it was entirely out of the question to submit to an unequal division. Piteously did these patriotic souls, calling themselves "Americans," whine at the Republican door to be allowed to sit down at the same table with those within; humbly did they entreat for permission to join the crusade and share the plunder; in imploring accents they appealed to be heard, and to be taken to the bosoms of the greedy and voracious Republicans. With scorn their petitions were rejected; the noses of the negro worshippers turned up in derision as they listened to the eric appeals from the other side of the Erie canal; they very coolly proceeded with the business of nominating their candidates, and after selecting their own men for the office of Governor and Lieutenant Governor, condescendingly enquired of the "American" Convention "what it had to say?" This was adding insult to injury, and the "Americans" could bear no more. They flared up, raised a general "muss" in the camp, became exceedingly indignant, made spirited speeches, raved and foamed awhile, and then declared, "the door of negotiation closed." Such was the result of the anticipated fusion. No disagreement upon any principle, as some of our Southern contemporaries would pretend; not from any negro loving tendency upon the part of the Black Republicans that these would-be "American" associates could not swallow, raised the insurmountable barrier to the formation of a joint stock company; the division of the much loved, much coveted "loaves and fishes," was the sole reason for the failure. Black Republicanism knew its power and it was determined to use it. There was no disposition to admit, but a determination to deny, the comparative handful of Know-Nothings to an equal participation in the rewards of victory. Vainly did the "Americans" protest, vainly did they beg, vainly did they petition, to be heard; the door was closed in their faces, and Black Republicanism went about its business. The correspondent of the New York Times says:

In the American Convention, the report of the Committee of Conference, though not in many respects what was wished, was, nevertheless, after a free debate, adopted and sent by a special Committee to the Republican Convention. The proceedings at this point should be specially noted. The message sent from the American to the Republican Convention, was in these words:

To the President of the Republican Convention: The Americans in Convention assembled at Syracuse, Sept. 9, P. M., 1858, have adopted the following resolution. Resolved, That the American Party is in favor of cooperating with the Republican Party upon honorable terms in a common effort to overthrow the present corrupt and profligate Federal Administration in the ensuing canvass in this State, and with this view adopt the report of the Committee of Conference appointed to confer with the Committee of Conference from the Republican Convention, and that the President of this Convention be requested to transmit to the Republican Convention notice of this action.

In compliance with the above resolution, the Americans in Convention assembled at Syracuse, Sept. 9, P. M., 1858, have adopted the following resolution. Resolved, That the American Party is in favor of cooperating with the Republican Party upon honorable terms in a common effort to overthrow the present corrupt and profligate Federal Administration in the ensuing canvass in this State, and with this view adopt the report of the Committee of Conference appointed to confer with the Committee of Conference from the Republican Convention, and that the President of this Convention be requested to transmit to the Republican Convention notice of this action.

MURDER FOUR.—On Saturday evening, 11th inst., as Mr. Alfred Eason was riding home from Powell's cross Road in the Southern part of this county in company with a neighbor, he was shot by some person unknown and died soon after.

His companion rode on to Mr. Thomas and informed him of the circumstance; Mr. T. promptly repaired to the spot where he found the wounded dying man whose last breath faintly gave for the name of "Mitchell." Mr. E. was a man of highly respectable connections and leaves a family, to which his loss will be a serious bereavement.

Various surmises are current as to the authors of the death of Mr. E. Some suppose that he was killed by a runaway slave; others are of a different opinion. *Murfreesboro' Citizen.*

I have the honor to transmit this communication.

DANIEL ULLMANN.

President American State Convention. This communication, as has been stated, was immediately and formally transmitted to the Republican Convention by a Committee of three. On their appearance there, and on it being known that there was a communication to be made from the Americans, there was deep sensation. The result of the first ballot for candidate for Governor was about to be announced; there was, necessarily, or unnecessarily, some delay, but finally, after consultation among the leading Republicans, in which Mr. Weed expressed a desire to have another ballot taken, (which it was seen would result in Mr. Morgan's nomination) the American Committee were introduced by General Nye. They formally stated the reason of their presence, and handed their written communication to the President of the Republican Convention. From that moment to this not the slightest notice has been taken of it by the Republican Convention! The American Committee retired, and the balloting for Mr. Morgan went on.

Now what do we see? The Americans follow the Republicans to Syracuse. After much delay the Republicans appointed a Committee of Conference, and the Americans met them promptly, with a like Committee. A Report is agreed on, in which six of the eight Republicans, and all the American Committee coincide. That Report is made to the Conventions separately. In the Republican Convention the Report is virtually rejected, and the Committee of Conference discharged. In the American Convention it is promptly and heartily adopted, and information of that fact at once transmitted to the Republican Convention, but the communication was suffered to lie unopened and unread. The Americans felt "the savage slight." But they did not resent it as they might have done.

The steamer *Curlow*, Capt. Burroughs will make an excursion to Nag's Head on Saturday evening, leaving at 5 o'clock, and return on Wednesday, so as to give persons an opportunity to attend the wreck sale.

LARGE HAUL OF SHEEP'S HEAD.

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEEN fine large Sheep's Head were taken in a seine at one half the other day, a few miles below Nag's Head, and were selling at the wharf at 10 cents each.

THE BIBLIORAMA is to be exhibited at the Baptist Church to-night. To-morrow evening will be the last opportunity our citizens will have of seeing this beautiful painting, and we advise all to go, as the proceeds arising from this exhibition will be for the benefit of the Church.

CHESAPEAKE FEMALE COLLEGE.

An advertisement of this admirable school will be found in our paper to-day, to which we direct particular attention. Situated in a healthy section of country, easy of access—the Norfolk steamers stopping daily at the College wharf—supplied with every modern convenience, the building capable of accommodating two hundred boarders, and lighted with gas, the professors of the first reputation, gives the College advantages enjoyed by but few.

AMERICAN CONVENTION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Boston, Sept. 15.—The American State Convention of Massachusetts assembled in Tremont Temple at noon to-day. About two hundred delegates were in attendance, and Ex-Governor Gardner was chosen president. After the delivery of a number of speeches, the Hon. Amos A. Lawrence was nominated for Governor by acclamation.

Gifts.—We call attention to the advertisement of G. G. Evans, Publisher, to be found in to-day's paper. The business conducted by Mr. Evans is no humbug.—In order that our readers may understand the way in which gifts are distributed, we publish the following answer of the *Dollar Newspaper* to a correspondent who asked the editors of that journal for information in regard to the character and *modus operandi* of the "much-talked of Lottery or Gift Book Store," as the Cumberland correspondent termed Evans' enterprise:

"This 'Gift Book Sale' can hardly be considered a lottery, for the double reason that there are no blanks, and that the thing itself—the sale of books and the dissemination of useful information, is good. Not so the sale of lottery tickets. At Evans' nothing is paid for the chance. The book selected in any case is sold at about the same price as at any other retail book store in the city, and a gift of greater or less value accompanies it; but always something. The gifts are made from a sale of the profits realized from a large sale of books, but how they are determined, we believe, is the proprietor's secret. It seems to be by some rule, for the award, we understand, is so quick as to be almost simultaneous with the announcement of the sale. To test the fact of favoritism, we, on the receipt of the above inquiry, sent to the store a boy, who, so far as we know, had never been inside of the place before, with directions to invest the dollar entrusted to him in any book that should please his fancy—the book to be his own, and the premium accompanying it, ours. In a few minutes he returned with a volume of 'Gardner the Lion Killer,' and a gold watch, valued at \$50, and which we suppose to be worth probably two-thirds of that sum.—Such was our luck, and the result is that a boy has a book which he may be induced to read, and which he probably would not have had but for the inducement in the shape of a premium held out to make the purchase, and we have a good watch."

But if this is to be said of those comparatively in health, what language can describe the sick? I saw one poor creature swollen to the most wonderful size with dropsy; and as he lay on his back, he moved his hands, signifying to one of our party a request for his cigar, which, when given to him, he smoked with the greatest avidity. Another manifested similar wants, and replied to our beckonings to come to us, by pointing to his leg, which we construed into inability to move. Two lay near, whose troubles here had ceased in death, while another, the most affecting sight of all—a child of six or eight years, lay on its side in the sun on the stone wharf, with eyes closed and no

THE CAPTURED NEGROES.

THEIR SUFFERINGS AND EMACIATED CONDITION—FEARFUL STORY BY A VISITOR.

The Charleston Mercury publishes the following communication from "A Charlestonian."

Mr. Editor:—Your very interesting account of these people almost renders further description unnecessary. But as some of the recent contributions to your paper presented a picture altogether bright, I would be glad to show both sides.

Of those in health, or comparatively so, I found about two hundred and fifty; of whom some fifty were females. There were about fifty others (I do not pretend to exactness in figures) in the sickwards, in various stages of disease. You have already shown that the negroes are from almost under the Equator—latitude 5.30 S. longitude 12.20 E. In the few books to which I have had access since I saw them, I have not found them described.—Bowen's explorations were in Central Africa—Livingstone's in the southern part. Barth's volumes, as far as he has gone, are descriptive of North and Central Africa—so that I am left somewhat at a loss for references. The negroes are of various ages, from thirty years to a few months or even weeks—some I should judge, having been born on the passage. It is wonderful how few either mother or infant survived such an event.

It has already been stated that they belong to various tribes. This is soon apparent from the difference of shades, from their being congregated in separate groups, and the evident inability to converse generally with each other. I observe nothing like general concert of thought or action between them, except in the chanting and clapping of hands. In these all, under the leadership of one man, the largest among them, united.

It has also been noticed that these Africans are far below the size common to the same age of negroes among us. This is understood to refer to height; for emaciated as most of them are, no one not better skilled in human anatomy than I am could conjecture what their weight, in health would be. Among the whole number, it struck me that the man above referred to—may have been five feet eight inches high—a few more may reach five feet six; but besides these, there did not seem to be any of the men who were over five feet two or three inches. Some few, half a dozen perhaps of the men, and a few more women, seemed in good health and condition. It is supposed that these exceptions of the former were of such as were not stowed away in the hold, but were employed in working about the slave. The women, for some unexplained reason, were undoubtedly in better condition than the men. You have already stated that the latter were wholly nude, and the former nearly so. One of the most singular of the exhibitions I saw was that of a woman whose hands were adorned by a pair of cotton gloves—almost her only covering. There was scarcely any comeliness among them, and the only one whose appearance agreeably attracted attention was the so styled Princess, whose tattooing certainly gave evidence of great dexterity and skill in the art.

I have no pretensions to science, and must leave the ethnological questions to the learned, who I trust, are engaged in their investigations. But to even the casual observer, the difference of tribes is quite evident. I was surprised that few or none exhibited the very thick lips and flat noses which we are accustomed to see in the African. The hair would doubtless be kinky, but, in accordance with the usage of slaves; it has been shaved, probably at the time of sailing from Africa. Our communications with them were made in part by signs, which they understood readily, and in part through an interpreter. This man was one of the slave crew, who did not profess knowledge of the negro dialect; but the principal negro had a smattering knowledge of Portuguese, from having worked on ships, &c., on the coast, and in this language he conversed with the interpreter. It was evident they understood each other, for upon our party asking the sailor to show us the Congo tribe, the negro brought three men who took their places before us, and I distinctly heard him say "Congo." I was struck with their teeth; some were even, as usual. One tribe had the two central upper foreteeth cut out in a semi-circle; while in another, the front teeth were sharpened to a point. Many of the negroes, especially with the aid of an old flannel shirt or trousers, looked as familiar as household or plantation slaves. In many such the feature and expression reminded us of familiar faces at home.

The result of the whole visit was intense sympathy for them and indignation towards their captors. You may read of the horrors of the "middle passage," but the half cannot be told as one view of these unfortunate will tell the tale. Dysentery, dropsy and ophthalmia—all, I believe, the productions of contact, want of ventilation and want of exercise—are the prevailing diseases.—But even where these were not visible, the spectacle was harrowing. A skeleton taken down from the nail of a doctor's closet, and presented to your view, would scarcely be more descriptive of anatomy than many of these living, walking specimens of the human frame. The effect was very startling, when you saw them squatting on their haunches, with their knees drawn up behind their elbows; in an attitude common to apes and baboons, but which no human frame clothed in flesh can attain. Some, when sitting and told to rise did so with great difficulty, and moved with a step as tottering as I ever saw after illness. The very head seemed but a skull encased in a black covering. It is common to speak of a man being reduced to skin and bone, but one who saw these can scarcely use the expression again.

But if this is to be said of those comparatively in health, what language can describe the sick? I saw one poor creature swollen to the most wonderful size with dropsy; and as he lay on his back, he moved his hands, signifying to one of our party a request for his cigar, which, when given to him, he smoked with the greatest avidity. Another manifested similar wants, and replied to our beckonings to come to us, by pointing to his leg, which we construed into inability to move. Two lay near, whose troubles here had ceased in death, while another, the most affecting sight of all—a child of six or eight years, lay on its side in the sun on the stone wharf, with eyes closed and no

other evidence of life than the slight motion of the stomach indicating breathing. The poor creature, alone and unattended had rested its head on its little hand as naturally as our own little ones do, and in this touching attitude of suffering childhood was fast losing the consciousness of a life whose experience had been only that of sorrow and suffering.

One thing impressed me forcibly—the complete docility, amounting to mere mechanical submission, of all these creatures. In the sick wards the physicians were applying caustic to the eyes of his patients. When this painful remedy was applied—and, poor creatures, they knew not that it was a remedy, or anything but part of the system of cruelty to which they had been subjected—they covered their faces with their hands in pain and with their heads all bowed in meek submission; and though many were young children, not a sound, not a murmur, escaped. The scene was truly touching. To one of my sensibility, the horrors of a battle field were less so. I left the scene chastened and humbled, but with gratitude, too, I trust, to Almighty God for a lot cast in a Christian land.

These negroes, purchased on the West Coast at from 50 cents to \$1, and costing scarcely more than \$10 or \$15, to be delivered on the coast of Cuba, were all to be sold by contract at \$560 round, or one hundred and seventy seven thousand nine hundred and eighty dollars (\$177,980) for the cargo. Such gains are too tempting to be resisted by those who make haste to be rich.

A CHARLESTONTIAN.

THE PRESIDENT'S DISPOSAL OF THE CAPTURED AFRICANS.

We have announced the fact that the President had concluded a contract with the American Colonization Society for the subsistence and instruction of the Africans recently captured in the slave now at Charleston, for the period of one year after their landing on the African coast.—We understand that this disposal of the Africans has been made with reference to pure considerations of economy; it having been ascertained on full inquiry that the cost of executing the directions of the law would be less under this arrangement with the Colonization Society than under any that could have been made with private individuals; the character and reputation of the Colonization Society affording, in addition to superior cheapness, a guarantee of a faithful execution of the contract, which would not have existed under an arrangement with private individuals personally unknown to the government.

As various discussions have been lately rife in the Union on the propriety or expediency of returning these captives again to their native coasts, and the subject has been treated as if the President possessed under the laws an option whether to send them back to Africa or retain them on this continent, it is proper that we should here quote the law under which his proceedings have been taken, from which it will be seen, he was allowed no such option as that we have alluded to.

In the case of Africans captured on the passage from continent to continent, the provisions of the laws of Congress are as follows: "The Commander of the captured vessel is directed to deliver every such negro, mulatto, or person of color, to the marshal of the district into which they are brought, if into a port of the United States; . . . transmitting to the President of the United States, as soon as may be after such delivery, a descriptive list of such negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, that he may give directions for the disposal of them."

"Be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to make such regulations and arrangements as he may deem expedient for the safe-keeping, support, and removal beyond the limits of the United States of all such negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color as may be so delivered and brought within their jurisdiction; and to appoint a proper person or persons, residing upon the coast of Africa, as agent or agents for receiving the negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade by commanders of the United States armed vessels."

The law, it will be seen, makes it imperative upon the President to transport the captives beyond the limits of the United States; and also makes it imperative upon him to appoint an agent or agents on the coast of Africa for the safe-keeping and support of the captives; thus designating the destination to which he shall send them—half the proceeds of the captured slave going into the treasury of the United States in liquidation *pro tanto* of the cost of these measures.

Thus the law left no discretion to the President upon the question whether the happiness and welfare of the captives would be best promoted by retaining them in a land of civilization and religious advantages, or returned to their original barbarism and darkness on the coast which the abolitionists would have us to believe a realm of bliss and moral purity compared with the plantations of the South.

It is not for us to comment upon the policy of a law which consigns these captives again after but a year's respite, to the miserable existence which they had escaped from their native shores, or to raise the question whether their own welfare would not have been far better consulted by retaining them here—either consigning them to a congenial and natural bondage on our Southern plantations, or turning them over to the officious philanthropy of New England abolitionism. The law directs the captives to be sent back to Africa. *Ita est scripta lex;* and while it continues thus to be written, such a discussion would be only a vain speculation.—*Wash. Union.*

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—The government is waiting with intense anxiety the progress of events in Mexico, but no official data has yet been received which can justify an opinion as to the result.

Mr. Forsyth's conduct has not been the result of special instructions.

The Cass Herran treaty is still under consideration by the Cabinet. The result of their deliberations will be submitted to the Senate, when certain modifications will be recommended.

The President left here to-day for Wheatland, on private business. He will be gone about a week.

W. D. Roberts, Jr. & Co., Norfolk, Va.—We shall comply with your request next week.

THE OPPOSITION IN NEW YORK.

Contrary to public expectation, New York failed to elect Know Nothings and Black Republicans. The business had been so arranged that so long as the opposition was so strong, the Know Nothings would be elected. The opposition was so strong, the Know Nothings would be elected. The opposition was so strong, the Know Nothings would be elected.

Such appears to be the position of the opposition in New York. For ourselves we do not attach much importance to this result. The Know Nothings and Black Republicans are first placed, the "Americans" are second, and the "Democrats" are third. The opposition is so strong, the Know Nothings would be elected. The opposition was so strong, the Know Nothings would be elected. The opposition was so strong, the Know Nothings would be elected.

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NEW YORK STATE NEWS.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Sept. 16.—Convention to-day made the following resolutions: For Governor, Amos A. Lawrence, Governor, John J. Johnson, Commissioner, Sherburne B. Johnson, Inspector, Edwin T. Johnson.

Prof. A. M. Shipp, of the Indiana University, has been elected to the Female College at Charlotte. Prof. Shipp is a Methodist and is probably one of the best preachers of the present day.—*Char. Jour.*

MAINE ELECTIONS.

PORTLAND, September 16.—Convention for Governor, members of the Legislature, to-day. The returns are as follows: For Governor, Amos A. Lawrence, Governor, John J. Johnson, Commissioner, Sherburne B. Johnson, Inspector, Edwin T. Johnson.

BENEFIT OF THE BAPTIST BIBLE SOCIETY.

LAST NIGHT OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY. WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 22ND.

Let every citizen throw in his mite! Sept. 21, 1858.

NOTICE.—Will be sold at sea beach, about four miles from the 21st inst., for the benefit of the Bible Society, a large quantity of goods, consisting of dry goods, crockery-ware, &c. Sold at 25 per cent. below cost. This is the last day of the sale. Take this the 14th day of Sept. at 10 o'clock. B. O. GILBERT.

CHEAP TABLE NAPKINS. N. Adams, Snow drop Palace, at No. 1 Market square. May 11

